

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Soc. 4.01.2 The Masaryk Case*

20 AUG 1969

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT: Harper's Publication of Book, THE MASARYK CASE**

1. We have, [redacted] an advanced uncorrected proof of a book which will appear in November 1969, by Claire (Neikind) STERLING, entitled THE MASARYK CASE. [redacted]

2. Clair STERLING concludes:

a. that Jan MASARYK was murdered.  
b. that the murder was done by a pair of thugs unidentified but originating with a group of "Beria guerrillas," who were in Prague as members of what she calls "the Soviet Centrum."

c. that the Czech communists might have preferred to let Jan MASARYK leave, but the Soviets would not risk the possibility that he might escape.

3. Soviets are especially sensitive to evocations of the MASARYK CASE. This book will keep the pressure up.

4. The documentation falls short of what we would have considered it possible to say at this stage. The author's inability to identify Soviets is a disappointment. Moreover, she has apparently been fed, possibly in good faith, some information of doubtful validity or relevance. The references to the "Soviet Centrum" are esoteric enough to raise a doubt.

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